

Minutes of the Senate Local, Urban & State Affairs Committee

Tuesday, October 16, 2007

3:00 p.m.

Room 110 of the Farnum Building

Chairman Van Woerkom called the meeting to order at 3:07 p.m.

Members present: Senators Van Woerkom, Birkholz, Allen, Gleason, and Basham.

Senator Basham motioned to approve the minutes from July 24, 2007 and the motion was supported by Senator Allen. The approval of the minutes passed unanimously.

Chairman Van Woerkom invited Senator Stamas to testify on SB 368.

Senator Stamas testified in favor of SB 368, along with his guest, Richard Simmons from the Alcona Board of Commission. It was stated that SB 368 protects public monies.

Chairman Van Woerkom asked Senator Stamas to explain the changes between SB 368 and S-1 SB 368.

Senator Basham stated that he was thankful for SB 368, however, there were some technical issues that needed to be worked through.

Senator Birkholz stated that as a former County Treasurer, she felt bad about the events that took place in Senator Stamas' district and Senator Birkholz questioned how the costs of the bonds would be paid.

Senator Stamas replied that he believed it was under the county general fund. Senator Stamas was not aware of how many counties did not have a bond.

Chairman Van Woerkom took a vote on adoption of S-1 SB 368. The motion was granted from Senator Allen, with support from Senator Gleason. The vote to adopt S-1 SB 368 passed unanimously.

Chairman Van Woerkom invited Ken Parrish of Kent County to testify on SB 368. Mr. Ken Parrish expressed his support of SB 368 and stated that he worked closely with Senator Stamas on this piece of legislation.

Senator Allen suggested that the committee take a look at exploring the inflation rate in relation to SB 368 and whether or not it was smart to reexamine this piece of legislation after so many years.

Mr. Parrish said he was in support either way.

Senator Birkholz then addressed the monetary figure in S-1 SB 368 and suggested that as we move forward on this piece of legislation, the money mark should be monitored based

on population. Senator Birkholz suggested maybe the County Treasurer's Association be delegated to monitor for changes.

Chairman Van Woerkom stated that Tom Hickson with the Michigan Association of Counties was neutral to S-1 SB 368.

Chairman Van Woerkom stated that Larry Steckelberg with the Department of Treasury supported S-1 SB 368.

Senator Birkholz motioned for a vote on S-1 SB 368, with support from Senator Gleason. Senators Van Woerkom, Birkholz, Allen, Gleason, and Basham voted in favor of S-1 SB 368. Therefore, S-1 SB 368 was reported with recommendation.

Senator Birkholz motioned for immediate effect with support from Senator Allen. The bill was reported with immediate effect unanimously.

Chairman Van Woerkom invited Senator Stamas to testify on SB 678.

Senator Birkholz motioned for a vote on SB 678 with support from Senator Allen.

Senators Van Woerkom, Birkholz, Allen, Gleason, and Basham voted in support of SB 678. Therefore, SB 678 was reported with recommendation.

Senator Birkholz motioned for immediate effect on SB 678 with support from Senator Allen.

Senators Van Woerkom, Birkholz, Allen, Gleason, and Basham voted in support of immediate effect on SB 678. Therefore, SB 678 was reported with immediate effect.

Chairman Van Woerkom invited Trevor Van Dyke to testify on SB 658, on behalf of Senator McManus. Also testifying in support of SB 658, with Mr. Van Dyke, was Edward Bradford from the City of Manistee.

Chairman Van Woerkom invited Andy Schor from the Michigan Municipal League to testify on SB 658.

Mr. Schor stated that he supports SB 658 and feels that it is a good local control bill.

Chairman Van Woerkom stated that Larry Steckelberg, from Department of Treasury supports SB 658.

Senator Birkholz motioned for a vote on SB 658 with support from Senator Allen.

Senators Van Woerkom, Birkholz, Allen, Gleason, and Basham voted in support of SB 658. Therefore, SB 658 was reported with recommendation.

Senator Birkholz motioned for immediate effect on SB 658 with support from Senator Allen.

Senators Van Woerkom, Birkholz, Allen, Gleason, and Basham voted in support of immediate effect on SB 658. Therefore, SB 658 was reported with immediate effect.

Senator Birkholz motioned for adjournment with no objection.

Chairman Van Woerkom the committee at 3:38 p.m.